

# NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



## *Office of Public Information*

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### **Nebraska Joins National Movement to Standardize Domestic Abuse Protection Orders Allowing Enforcement from State to State**

Nebraska has joined a national movement to standardize domestic abuse protection orders by issuing and enforcing a new uniform first page.

The revised front page now provides the most critical data for issuing and enforcing the orders. The National Center for State Courts is working to standardize the national template for every state, territory, and tribe through an initiative called, "Project Passport."

"Project Passport" changes have been implemented in conjunction with legislative changes made to the Protection from Domestic Abuse Act (LB 1014) passed in the most recent session of the legislature. Legislative Bill 1014 modified the law so the process for a domestic abuse protection order would require a hearing in front of a judge.

"This is an important first step toward creating uniform protection orders with the goal of simplifying and standardizing a document that can be used effectively by law enforcement nationwide," said Toni Ahrendt, Domestic Violence Programs Service Specialist for the Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation. "The new national template will help Nebraska victims receive similar protection in other states and allow Nebraska law enforcement to protect out-of-state victims more easily," said Ahrendt.

Currently, there are thousands of variations of protective orders across the country. The orders can be difficult to enforce because of their length and wording. Added to that problem is the challenge of enforcing out-of-state protection orders.

Nebraska joins many states, the District of Columbia, and numerous Indian tribes that have adopted the national template, while others are working toward adopting it.

-- For more information on Nebraska's project call Toni G. Ahrendt, Domestic Violence Programs Service Specialist, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation - 402.471.2125 - [toni.ahrendt@nsc.ne.gov](mailto:toni.ahrendt@nsc.ne.gov)

-- For more information on the national program for protection orders, visit the National Center for State Courts Web site at <http://www.ncsconline.org>

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